

Local Miners Face Cancer Problems From Mine Exposures

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WASHINGTON—The Mayflower Mine in Keetley, Wasatch County and United Park City Mines in Park City, along with Geneva Works in Orem have been listed by a consumer activities group founded by Ralph Nader, as possible high risk cancer areas, for workers in

the area.

The group says that as many as 250,000 US workers face increased cancer risks from exposure to chemicals in the work place.

The dangerous substances on the list of 249 work sites included coal tar, dioxin, silica dust, radioactive isotopes, formaldehyde, cotton dust, kepone, benzinine, and DBCP.

Depending on the substance they were exposed to, workers face increased risks of nearly a dozen types of cancer, lung and heart disease, silicosis, asbestosis and tuberculosis, according to the list.

The UPI story also quoted the group Public Citizen, which released the names of 249 facilities, sent a letter to President Reagan suggesting the administration isn't notifying the workers of the risks because it wants to protect the business community from lawsuits.

President Reagan had planned to notify all individuals involved individually, which Nader said would be too costly and delayed. Early notification could possibly lead to early treatment.

Utah mines on list of those with dust danger

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CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — The United Mine Workers union has identified 18 coal mines that have had "persistent problems" meeting federal dust standards, according to memos from the union to its field safety officers and to the federal mine safety agency.

Mines in Utah on the list include: Kaiser Coal Co. Sunnyside No. 3 mine; Utah Power & Light Co. Deer Creek mine; Plateau Mining Co. Star Point No. 2 mine.

At least 80 underground mines averaged coal dust concentrations greater than the federal standard during the 1986 fiscal year, and 18 mines exceeded the legal limit in each of the past three fiscal years, according to a report in today's edition of the Corporate Crime Reporter, a weekly newsletter based in Washington, D.C.

The list of mines was compiled by the UMW on the basis of information gathered by the U.S. Labor Department's Mine Safety and Health Administration, the newsletter said.

One memo from the union's Washington headquarters to union safety officials in the field warns that "certain mines will not appear on this list ... even though you know they have significant dust problems." The memo concludes that "this list is the tip of the iceberg and represents those mines where we have well-documented evidence of overexposure to dust."

Excessive coal dust causes a variety of problems in underground mines; in high concentrations it is explosive, and long-term exposure can cause black lung, a chronic respiratory ailment officially known as "occupational pneumoconiosis."

The newsletter quotes "industry sources" as saying that MSHA has never brought criminal proceedings against companies believed to

Senator renews crusade against 1872 Mining Law

By XAVIER BRIAND
Herald Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A senator is renewing his crusade against a law he says encourages companies to scoop out fortunes in minerals from federal lands without paying Uncle Sam "one red cent."

"If I were king, I'd stop this whole (situation)," said Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark. "I wouldn't be talking to miners or anybody else. But I live in the real world, and so I'm trying to do the best I can with conditions as they are."

Bumpers spoke to reporters Thursday shortly before introducing his latest version of a plan to alter the 1872 Mining Law.

Under the law, companies extract \$4 billion of hard-rock minerals — gold, silver, iron, palladium — each year from lands that the federal government has sold for as little as \$2.50 per acre, he said.

The law also does not require companies to restore a site after shutting down the mine. As a result, more than 70 former mines are on the government's "Superfund" list. A clean-up could cost as much as \$50 billion.

"The whole process is so outrageous that it's almost unbelievable," Bumpers said.

Bumpers has introduced similar measures before but failed to get them past the mining industry and the Bush administration. Last year, Bumper's amendment to temporarily halt abuses under the law died in the Senate on a 52-44 vote.

Bumpers' reform bill would outlaw the sale of federal lands, strengthen environmental regulations regarding mining, and require mining companies to pay an 8 percent royalty fee.

That fee is a bargain compared to royalties mining companies pay on private land, he said. In Nevada, for example, a landowner charges gold and silver miners an 18 percent royalty.

Environmentalists praised the bill.

"This is a banner day," said Nancy Green of The Wilderness Society. "The General Mining Law of 1872 is an antiquated relic that has far outlived its time and should be confined to history's slag heap."

But Philip Hocker of the Mineral Policy Center in Washington, D.C., said the bill doesn't go far enough.

Hocker, president of the public advocacy group, said he would prefer a 12 percent royalty pay-

ment, making mineral royalties comparable to oil, gas and coal royalties that the federal government already receives.

Of the estimated \$320 million generated by new royalties, Bumpers said one-third would be earmarked for clean-up projects. The rest would be split between the federal government and the states.

The measure is similar to a House bill introduced by Rep. Nick Joe Rahall II, D-W.Va., at the beginning of this month.

The Mining Act was signed into law by President Ulysses S. Grant to encourage prospecting on federal lands in the West and spark development.

If prospectors strike it rich, they may file a claim to the property and sell the minerals without paying the government royalties. The claim is good as long as the miner performs at least \$100 worth of work each year.

After establishing a claim, a miner can get outright ownership — patent — with proof that a valuable deposit exists and \$500 worth of work has been done.

Through patenting, federal land is available for between \$2.50 and \$5 per acre. Bumpers said that since 1987 alone, the government has given away \$94 billion worth of land.

In a speech on the Senate floor, Bumpers used a Montana mining company as an example of how the private sector takes advantage of the law.

"Four days after I narrowly lost a vote on mining reform in 1990, the Stillwater Mining Co. applied for 25 patents covering 2,036 acres of federal land," he said.

"If they receive that patent, they will pay the whopping sum of \$10,180 for both the land and the \$32 billion in platinum and palladium that lies under it."

UVCC offers money management seminar

OREM — Utah Valley Community College's division of continuing education will be hosting a money management seminar which will discuss how to lower taxes, lower insurance costs, plan investments and retire financially independent.

Session one will consist of discussions titled "Your Foundations for Financial Independence" and "Putting Your Dollars to Work (continued)," "Understanding College Funding for Your Children," "Retirement Planning," "Understanding the True Nature of Debt," and "How to Get Out of Debt."

Retirement planning, risk management and estate planning will be discussed in the third and last

session.

The three-part seminar is offered at two different times; either once a week for three weeks on Wednesdays or once a week for three weeks on Thursdays. Wednesday sessions will be held in the Student Center room 117, Orem campus, on Feb. 3, 10 and 17 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday sessions will be held in the Science Building room 102, Orem campus, on Feb. 11, 18, 25, from 6-9 p.m.

Registration fee is \$69 per individual or couple, with a money-back guarantee offered if participants do not find the seminar worthwhile.

For more information regarding the seminar or registration, call Chris Bird at 222-8000 ext. 8495.

Calendar

therapists can handle most common cases of marital difficulty and p.m. and Friday from 8 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Comprehensive Clinic at 378-7759.

Women's cancer screening

The Cancer and Screening Prevention Program, Utah State Department of Health, in cooperation with the American Cancer Society and participating health departments, will provide cancer screening clinics for women as in the following schedule:

Feb. 3, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Manti Stake Center, phone 835-2231.

Feb. 4, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Gunnison Stake Center, phone 528-7810.

The clinics will include a Pap smear, pelvic and breast examinations, blood pressure check, hemocult kits to test for colorectal cancer, health education information on risk factors, signs and symptoms of cancer and referral for appropriate medical follow-up. A mammogram is not provided. The examinations are given by specially trained registered nurses.

All women 18 years of age or older, or who are sexually active, who have not had a Pap

Drivers who successfully complete the course receive a 50 point reduction off their Utah driving record, one time during any three year period. Individuals 55 years of age and older may qualify for insurance discounts after completing the course.

Enroll in the eight hour defensive driving held at UVCC (Provo Campus), Room SW 217, 1395 North University Avenue. Preregistration is required. For information, call 1-800-933-5943. The registration fee is \$20 per person, \$7 for drivers over age 55.

Thursday Law Society auction

The second annual service auction to benefit the Public Interest Law Society scholarship fund will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Moot Court Room (Room 303) at the J. Reuben Clark Law School on the BYU campus.

The items to be auctioned off will be varied and hopefully will include such things as trips and sports items from the BYU alumni.

The Public Interest Law Society is a student organization dedicated to work in the public interest. The organization encourages students

Creekside support group

Creekside Home Health Care will sponsor its monthly support group meeting at the Eldred Senior Citizens Center, 270 West 500 North, Provo. Entitled "Coping With the Confused Patient," the session is conducted under the direction of a social worker and registered nurse. The support group is free and open to the public and directed to those caring for an ill or disabled family member at home.

For more information, call 377-8900.

UVCC lecture

Malan Jackson, director of International Studies at UVCC will discuss "China, its History and its People," from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in UVCC Student Ballroom, Student Center.

Jackson has a master's degree from the University of California Berkeley, in Chinese language and history. He traveled and lived 20 years in Asia and China while engaged in business, research and missionary work. He has also worked for the Government in Wash-